

River Hill Wins 3A/4A East Regional Duals

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Dave Pottorff was a MD State Champion for Bowie in 1977; Dave was also an Assistant Coach at Bowie.

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Criteria F (most technical-falls) Sends the Hawks Flying Onward

In a Dual Meet that could not have been more closely contested, River Hill defeated Bel Air 37-36 to win the 3A/4A East Regional Dual Meet Wrestling title on Monday afternoon at River Hill High School. With the win, the Hawks advance to Wednesday's State Dual Meet Championships at North Point High School in Charles County.

The match started at 220 and River Hill Head Coach Brandon Lauer made a strategic decision right from the start. He chose to bump his regular 195 pound wrestler, Logan Kirby, up to 220. The move paid off as Kirby pinned Drew Dyer in one minute.

Defending 3A/4A State Champion Cory Daniel bumped up to 285 and pinned Bel Air's Dakota Crawford at the 1:16 mark of the first period to extend the Hawk's lead to 12-0.

At 106, the Bobcat's David Reagan held off a late rally by Matt Shealy and registered the fall 38 seconds into the third period to bring the score to 12-6.

River Hill's Alex Potts returned the favor at 113 by pinning Tyler Ham at the 2:50 mark which put the lead back to 12 points, 18-6.

Bel Air's Gavin Rupprecht got those points right back for the Bobcats at 120 with his pin of Nathan Dustin in 3:21 of the second period. River Hill's lead was cut to six again, 18-12.

At 126, Michael Beck dominated the match but could not secure a fall and had to settle for a 12-1 major-decision over Brady Stafford. The win extended the Hawks lead to 22-12.

Down, but not out, Bel Air reeled off four straight wins through the middle-weights to take a 30-22 lead.

It started at 132 with Ryan Beveridge needing only 1:28 to pin River Hill's Andrew Mahoney.

Bel Air's Sam Guo scored a late reversal and two near-fall points to defeat Ryan Erskine 8-4 at 138.

The Bobcat's Cameron Watts executed a first period takedown, and a second period escape, for a gutty 3-0 win over Sean Guthier at 145.

John Cross of Bel Air registered the day's fastest fall, stopping Jack Connolly at 152 in only 56 seconds.

At this point the River Hill upper weights took matters into their own hands.

In what would turn out to be the pivotal match of the dual meet, Brady Daniel of River Hill totally dominated Pablo Chavarria. Daniel was able to takedown Chavarria almost at will, and was leading 17-6 late in the third period. Had the match ended with this score, it would only earn four team points for River Hill. Daniel pushed the action and secured a takedown and three near-fall points as time expired to win by a technical-fall and earn an extra team point. The score now stood at 30-27.

At 170, River Hill's Sebastian Ames scored five takedowns while giving up five escapes to Grant Fleming to outscore the Bobcat wrestler 10-5. The team score was now knotted at 30.

In the final match contested, River Hill's 182lber, Bebe Kum pinned Tommy Gomez at the 1:17 mark of the first period to put the Hawks up by six with one weight to go.

With a back-up wrestler waiting in the wings at 195, Coach Lauer used his ace in the hole and decided to forfeit the match instead. With the dual meet over and the team score tied at 36-36, the match was decided on criteria.

Neither team nor coach had any unsportsmanlike calls against them. Both teams won seven matches. Both had four pins. It finally came down to criteria "F". Brady Daniel's Tech-fall was the only one by either team, and it was the margin of victory for River Hill as they were awarded a team point on criteria to win 37-36.

Those in attendance were treated to an outstanding dual meet. The coaches and wrestlers of both teams can be very proud of the way they represented themselves and their schools today.

"I think they wrestled well," said Lauer. "It was tough having to wrestle a league rival (Glenelg) in the semis, but they got the job done. After such an emotional match there is always a drop off but the guys were resilient and stepped up again for the final."

"It's (the state duals) going to be tough. We've got to face Damascus in the semis and they have already beaten us this year. We're just going to work hard in practice tomorrow and give it our best shot."

Does he have any more aces up his sleeve? We'll find out Wednesday at North Point.

Editor's Note

It has been revealed after the fact that the coaches and officials made an error in determining the winner. Criteria E was determined to be a tie at the time (falls were tied 4-4), but the NFHS rule book states that forfeits count as part of criteria E. Therefore, Bel Air should have been declared the winner with 5 pins/forfeits to River Hill's 4 pins. An appeal has to be made inside a 30 minute window from the conclusion of the match. Since this did not take place, River Hill went on to the state dual meet championships.

Final:

River Hill 37 - Bel Air 36

220 Logan Kirby, RIHI, pinned Drew Dyer, BAHS, 1:00
285 Cory Daniel, RIHI, pinned Dakota Crawford, BAHS, 1:16
106 David Reagan, BAHS, pinned Matt Shealy, RIHI, 5:38
113 Alex Potts, RIHI, pinned Tyler Ham, BAHS, 2:50
120 Gavin Rupperecht, BAHS, pinned Nathan Dustin, RIHI, 3:21
126 Michael Beck, RIHI, maj. dec. Brady Stafford, BAHS, 12-1
132 Ryan Beveridge, BAHS, pinned Andrew Mahoney, RIHI, 1:28
138 Sam Guo, BAHS, dec. Ryan Erskine, RIHI, 5-4
145 Cameron Watts, BAHS, dec. Sean Guthier, RIHI, 3-0
152 John Cross, BAHS, pinned Jack Connolly, RIHI, 0:56
160 Brady Daniel, RIHI, tech. fall Pablo Chavarria, BAHS, 22-6
170 Sebastian Ames, RIHI, dec. Grant Fleming, BAHS, 10-5
182 Bebe Kum, RIHI, pinned Tommy Gomez, BAHS, 1:17
195 Cyler Crawford, BAHS, forf. (RIHI Criteria F...River Hill had 1 Tech Fall to Bel Air 0)

Semi-Final:

River Hill 36 - Glenelg 27

195 Logan Kirby, RIHI, dec. Austin Twigg, GLEN, 3-1
220 Cory Daniel, RIHI, forf.
285 Craig Burris, GLEN, dec. Tyler Smith, RIHI, 1-0
106 Matt Shealy, RIHI, dec. Sam Kraus, GLEN, 4-1
113 Alex Potts, RIHI, dec. Collin Silk, GLEN, 4-2
120 Nathan Dustin, RIHI, dec. Griffin Peterman, GLEN, 9-2
126 Andrew Mahoney, RIHI, pinned Kyle Qualls, GLEN, 1:28
132 Michael Beck, RIHI, forf.
138 Ryan Erskine, RIHI, dec. Parker Griffie, GLEN, 4-2
145 Sean Guthier, RIHI, dec. Austin Pagnotta, GLEN, 1-0
152 Christopher Dornan, GLEN, forf.
160 Michael Budock, GLEN, forf.
170 Troy Walter, GLEN, forf.
182 Joseph Zoller, GLEN, forf.